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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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EXAMINER

BATES, KEVIN T

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2155

DATE MAILED: 10/30/2003

3

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/643,235

Applicant(s)

ENSLEY ET AL.

Examiner

Kevin Bates

Art Unit

2155

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 22 August 2000.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-40 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-40 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 2.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other:

DETAILED ACTION

Information Disclosure Statement

The information disclosure statement (IDS) submitted on August 22, 2000 was considered by the examiner.

Claim Objections

Claims 21 and 33 are objected to under 37 CFR 1.75(c), as being of improper dependent form for failing to further limit the subject matter of a previous claim. Applicant is required to cancel the claim(s), or amend the claim(s) to place the claim(s) in proper dependent form, or rewrite the claim(s) in independent form. The claims 21 and 33 just repeat the limitations found in the claims 20 and 32 respectively, which each is a dependent of.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1, 2, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 19, 20, 21, 22, 30, 31, 32, 33, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Bondi (5,710,885) (Applicants IDS).

Bondi discloses a method of querying computers connected to a distributed network (Column 3, lines 35 – 38), said method comprising the steps of: providing a range of addresses to be queried (Column 7, lines 28 - 32), said range being defined by

a beginning address and an ending address (Column 7, lines 37 – 39); selecting an address to be queried from the range of addresses (Column 7, lines 36 – 45); transmitting a request to the selected address; creating a response record associated with the selected address in a response output file (Column 7, lines 46 – 47), said response record comprising the selected address (Column 4, lines 58 – 62); incrementing the address to be queried according to a predefined order; and repeating said steps of transmitting a request, creating a response record, and incrementing the address until every address in the range of addresses has been queried (Column 7, lines 36 – 47).

Regarding claim 2, Bondi discloses that the distributed network is the Internet (Column 1, line 13).

Regarding claim 3, Bondi discloses the step of providing a range of addresses to be queried comprises inputting a beginning address (inputted in the form of a cache list, Column 6, lines 47 – 50) only and wherein the ending address is automatically chosen (Column 7, lines 6 – 23).

Regarding claim 4, Bondi discloses that the selected address is the beginning address (Column 7, lines 37 – 39) because the address is selected from a queue that starts from the beginning address.

Regarding claim 6, Bondi discloses that the step of creating a response record comprises: creating a positive response record associated with the selected address in a positive response output file if a reply is received from the selected address in response to the request (Column 4, lines 62 - 63), said positive response record

comprising the selected address (Column 4, lines 58 – 62); and creating a negative response record associated with the selected address in a negative response output file if no reply is received from the selected address in response to the request (Column 6, lines 40 – 46), said negative response record comprising the selected address (Column 4, lines 58 – 62).

Regarding claim 7, Bondi discloses the positive response output file is a table in a database (Column 4, lines 62 – 63).

Regarding claim 8, Bondi discloses the negative response output file is a table in a database (Column 6, lines 40 – 46).

Regarding claim 9, Bondi discloses the positive response output file (Column 4, lines 62 – 63) and the negative response output file (Column 6, lines 40 – 46) each comprise tables in a single database (IP topology database).

Regarding claim 10, Bondi discloses the positive response output file is in a format selected from the group consisting of a text file, a Hypertext Markup Language file, a comma separated values file, a **database file**, a spreadsheet file, and a PDF file (Column 4, line 66 – Column 5, line 7).

Regarding claim 11, Bondi discloses the negative response output file is in a format selected from the group consisting of a text file, a Hypertext Markup Language file, a comma separated values file, a **database file**, a spreadsheet file, and a PDF file (Column 4, line 66 – Column 5, line 7).

Regarding claim 12, Bondi discloses excluding a specified address from the range of addresses to be searched (Column 7, lines 32 – 35).

Regarding claim 13, Bondi discloses excluding a specified set of addresses from the range of addresses to be searched (Column 7, lines 32 – 35).

Regarding claim 14, Bondi discloses that the range of addresses to be queried is a range of Internet Protocol ("IP") addresses and wherein the selected address is an IP address (Column 6, lines 13 – 14).

Regarding claim 18, Bondi discloses the steps of: temporarily halting the querying of computers through operator intervention prior to completion (Column 7, lines 6 – 22 and Column 6, lines 53 - 55, where the ping transmission control rate can be adjusted to be minimum or even zero to meet the demands of the network); and resuming the querying of computers through operator intervention at the selected address where the process was temporarily halted (Column 7, lines 6 – 22 and Column 7, lines 36 – 38, the polling works as a queue so the next node to poll will stay on top of the queue).

Regarding claim 19, Bondi discloses selecting a second address from the negative response output file; transmitting a second request to the selected second address (Column 7, line 64 – Column 8, line 6); creating a positive response record associated with the selected second address in the positive response output file if a reply is received from the selected second address in response to the second request (Column 7, lines 46 – 47), said positive response record comprising the selected second address (Column 4, lines 58 – 62); removing the negative response record associated with the selected second address from the negative response output file if a reply is received from the selected second address in response to the second request

(Column 7, lines 60 – 62); incrementing the address to be queried; and repeating said steps of selecting a second address, transmitting a second request, creating a positive response record, removing the negative response record, and incrementing the address until every address in the negative response output file has been queried (Column 7, line 64 – Column 8, line 6) because the polling process makes use of a transmission queue.

Regarding claims 20 – 22, Bondi discloses a ping count (Column 7, line 64 – Column 8, line 6) that allows each node to be selected up to any number of times including three and four times, each time following the same process as listed in the rejection to claim 19 and where pinging and sending a request are essentially the same (Column 6, lines 47 – 50).

Regarding claim 30, Bondi discloses a method of searching server computers connected to a distributed network, said method comprising the steps of: selecting a first IP address from a negative response file (Column 7, line 64 – Column 8, line 6), said negative response file comprising IP addresses of server computers that have failed to respond to a network service request (the unacknowledged poll table Column 5, line 67 – Column 6, line 6); transmitting a first request to the selected first IP address (Column 7, line 64 – Column 8, line 6); creating a positive response record associated with the selected first IP address in a positive response file if a reply is received from the selected first IP address in response to the first request (Column 7, lines 46 – 47), said positive response record comprising the selected first IP address (Column 4, lines 58 – 62); removing the selected first IP address from the negative response file if a reply is

received from the selected first IP address in response to the first request (Column 7, lines 60 – 62); and repeating said steps of selecting a first IP address, transmitting a first request, creating a positive response record associated with the selected first IP address, and removing the selected first IP address until every IP address in the negative response output file has been searched (Column 7, line 64 – Column 8, line 6) because the polling process makes use of a transmission queue.

Regarding claims 31 – 33, Bondi discloses a ping count (Column 7, line 64 – Column 8, line 6) that allows each node to be selected up to any number of times including two and three times, each time following the same process as listed in the rejection to claim 19 and where pinging and sending a request are essentially the same (Column 6, lines 47 – 50).

Regarding claim 35, Bondi discloses the positive response output file is a table in a database (Column 4, lines 62 – 63).

Regarding claim 36, Bondi discloses the negative response output file is a table in a database (Column 6, lines 40 – 46).

Regarding claim 37, Bondi discloses the positive response output file (Column 4, lines 62 – 63) and the negative response output file (Column 6, lines 40 – 46) each comprise tables in a single database (IP topology database).

Regarding claim 38, Bondi discloses the positive response output file is in a format selected from the group consisting of a text file, a Hypertext Markup Language file, a comma separated values file, a **database file**, a spreadsheet file, and a PDF file (Column 4, line 66 – Column 5, line 7).

Regarding claim 39, Bondi discloses the negative response output file is in a format selected from the group consisting of a text file, a Hypertext Markup Language file, a comma separated values file, **a database file**, a spreadsheet file, and a PDF file (Column 4, line 66 – Column 5, line 7).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 5, 24, 34, and 40 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bondi in view of Schettler (5,787,252) (Applicants IDS).

Regarding claims 5 and 34, Bondi does not explicitly indicated that the request is one of a Hypertext Transfer Protocol ("HTTP") request, a Hypertext Transfer Protocol Secure ("HTTPS") request, a File Transfer Protocol ("FTP") request, a Simple Mail Transfer Protocol ("SMTP") request, a Network News Transfer Protocol ("NNTP") request, a User Datagram Protocol ("UDP") request, and an Internet Chat Relay ("IRC") request. Schettler teaches a system of network discovery and management that uses UDP as part of its ability to monitor the network (Column 4, lines 63 – 66) and as a method of transferring SNMP messages. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include the UDP protocol, a popular industry standard protocol, as taught by Schettler in Bondi because the use of UDP requires much less overhead (Column 1, lines 37 – 42).

Regarding claims 24 and 40, Bondi does not explicitly mention the step of filtering addresses listed in the response output file for content based upon user-specified criteria. Schettler teaches a system of network discovery and management that filters addresses listed in the response output file for content based upon user-specified criteria (Column 6, lines 48 – 60). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use Schettler's teaching of a network display on Bondi's network monitoring system in order to provide the user of the network manager an easy and simple implementation of the manager's tasks and enhanced performance (Column 2, line 60 – Column 3, line 15).

Claim 23 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bondi in view of Arrowood (5,101,348) (Applicants IDS).

Regarding claim 23, Bondi discloses the idea of searching a range of addresses in tandem (Column 2, lines 55 – 62), but does not explicitly mention using a plurality of computers remotely to do so. Arrowood teaches a method of using a plurality of computers to pool network devices in order to obtain a network device layout (Column 3, lines 3 – 10). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time the invention was made to use Arrowood's teaching of a distributed process of discovering the network device layout on Bondi's system of network monitoring to make the process more practical for larger network systems (Column 1, line 51 – Column 2, line 7).

Claim 17 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bondi in view of Humblet (5,671,357). Bondi does not explicitly mention that steps of transmitting a request, creating a response record, and incrementing the address are

repeated only for a predetermined time, said method further comprising the step of: discontinuing said step of repeating said steps of transmitting a request, creating a response record, and incrementing the address once the predetermined time has elapsed, regardless of whether every address in the range of addresses has been queried. Humblet teaches that a network node discovery program should discontinue once the predetermined time has elapsed, regardless of whether every IP address in the range of IP addresses has been queried (Column 2, lines 6 – 22). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use Humblet's teaching of discontinuing the node discovery process in Liu's computer query process in order to prevent redundant updates, freeing up resources in the network (Column 1, lines 40 – 45).

Claims 15 and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bondi in view of Liu (6,574,664).

Regarding claim 15, Bondi does not explicitly indicate that the selected W address comprises a primary number, a secondary number, a third number, and a fourth number, and wherein the predefined order comprises incrementing the IP address in the following order: (a) incrementing the secondary number without changing the primary number, third number, and fourth number until the entire range of secondary numbers has been queried; (b) incrementing the third number by one; (c) incrementing the secondary number without changing the primary number, third number, and fourth number until the entire range of secondary numbers has been queried; (d) repeating steps (b) and (c) until the entire range of secondary numbers and

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third numbers has been queried; (e) incrementing the fourth number by one; (f) incrementing the secondary number without changing the primary number, third number, and fourth number until the entire range of secondary numbers has been queried; (g) incrementing the third number by one; (h) incrementing the secondary number without changing the primary number, third number, and fourth number until the entire range of secondary numbers has been queried; and (i) repeating steps (e) through (h) until the entire range of secondary numbers, third numbers, and fourth numbers has been queried. Liu teaches a method of discovery of network nodes involving the incremental process of searching IP address ranges by incrementing a portion of the IP address until the entire range is progressed, then incrementing another range and repeating the initial incrimination (Column 6, lines 6 – 10). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use Liu's teaching of IP discovery on Bondi's node query system to enhance the query system into being able to communicate with non-SNMP devices (Column 2, lines 1 – 12). Liu does not explicitly disclose that the order of the ranges incremented is the second range followed by the third range followed by the fourth range. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to know that the IP address could be incremented in numerous different ways and orders as long as the entire desired range of IP addresses is searched for node discovery (Column 6, lines 40 – 45) which in part comprises the idea of (a) incrementing the secondary number without changing the primary number, third number, and fourth number until the entire range of secondary numbers has been queried; (b)

incrementing the third number by one; (c) incrementing the secondary number without changing the primary number, third number, and fourth number until the entire range of secondary numbers has been queried; (d) repeating steps (b) and (c) until the entire range of secondary numbers and third numbers has been queried; (e) incrementing the fourth number by one; (f) incrementing the secondary number without changing the primary number, third number, and fourth number until the entire range of secondary numbers has been queried; (g) incrementing the third number by one; (h) incrementing the secondary number without changing the primary number, third number, and fourth number until the entire range of secondary numbers has been queried; and (i) repeating steps (e) through (h) until the entire range of secondary numbers, third numbers, and fourth numbers has been queried.

Regarding claim 16, as part of Liu's teaching of IP discovery, Liu discloses incrementing the primary number by one; and repeating steps (a) through (i) until the entire range of secondary numbers, third numbers, and fourth numbers has been queried because in a normal consecutive incremental process the count till eventually increment the lower 3 subsets of number and when they reach the entire range of those 3 subsets of numbers then the 4th subset is incremented (Column 6, lines 6 – 10).

Claims 25 and 26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Liu.

Regarding claim 25, Lui discloses a method of querying a range of IP addresses, wherein each IP address in the range uniquely identifies a computer connected to a distributed network (Column 2, lines 35 – 45), wherein the IP address comprises a

primary number, a secondary number, a third number, and a fourth number (Column 4, Table 1), but Lui does not explicitly indicate the method of wherein the predefined order comprises incrementing the IP address in the following order: (a) incrementing the secondary number without changing the primary number, third number, and fourth number until the entire range of secondary numbers has been queried; (b) incrementing the third number by one; (c) incrementing the secondary number without changing the primary number, third number, and fourth number until the entire range of secondary numbers has been queried; (d) repeating steps (b) and (c) until the entire range of secondary numbers and third numbers has been queried; (e) incrementing the fourth number by one; (f) incrementing the secondary number without changing the primary number, third number, and fourth number until the entire range of secondary numbers has been queried; (g) incrementing the third number by one; (h) incrementing the secondary number without changing the primary number, third number, and fourth number until the entire range of secondary numbers has been queried; and (i) repeating steps (e) through (h) until the entire range of secondary numbers, third numbers, and fourth numbers has been queried. Liu teaches a method of discovery of network nodes involving the incremental process of searching IP address ranges by incrementing a portion of the IP address until the entire range is progressed, then incrementing another range and repeating the initial incrimination (Column 6, lines 6 – 10). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to know that the IP address could be incremented in numerous different ways and orders as long as the entire desired range of IP addresses is searched for node discovery

(Column 6, lines 40 – 45) which in part comprises the idea of (a) incrementing the secondary number without changing the primary number, third number, and fourth number until the entire range of secondary numbers has been queried; (b) incrementing the third number by one; (c) incrementing the secondary number without changing the primary number, third number, and fourth number until the entire range of secondary numbers has been queried; (d) repeating steps (b) and (c) until the entire range of secondary numbers and third numbers has been queried; (e) incrementing the fourth number by one; (f) incrementing the secondary number without changing the primary number, third number, and fourth number until the entire range of secondary numbers has been queried; (g) incrementing the third number by one; (h) incrementing the secondary number without changing the primary number, third number, and fourth number until the entire range of secondary numbers has been queried; and (i) repeating steps (e) through (h) until the entire range of secondary numbers, third numbers, and fourth numbers has been queried.

Regarding claim 26, as part of Liu's teaching of IP discovery, Liu discloses incrementing the primary number by one; and repeating steps (a) through (i) until the entire range of secondary numbers, third numbers, and fourth numbers has been queried because in a normal consecutive incremental process the count till eventually increment the lower 3 subsets of number and when they reach the entire range of those 3 subsets of numbers then the 4th subset is incremented (Column 6, lines 6 – 10).

Claim 27 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Liu in view of Schettler. Lui does not explicitly indicated that the request is one of a

Hypertext Transfer Protocol ("HTTP") request, a Hypertext Transfer Protocol Secure ("HTTPS") request, a File Transfer Protocol ("FTP") request, a Simple Mail Transfer Protocol ("SMTP") request, a Network News Transfer Protocol ("NNTP") request, a User Datagram Protocol ("UDP") request, and an Internet Chat Relay ("IRC") request.

Schettler teaches a system of network discovery and management that uses UDP as part of its ability to monitor the network (Column 4, lines 63 – 66) and as a method of transferring SNMP messages. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include the UDP/IP for SNMP messages to allow the network manager access to network devices that employ the UDP protocol (Column 1, lines 46 – 49).

Claim 29 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Liu in view of Bondi. Liu does not explicitly disclose the steps of: (k) temporarily halting the querying of IP addresses through operator intervention prior to completion; and (l) resuming the querying of IP addresses through operator intervention at a later time. Bondi teaches the steps of: temporarily halting the querying of computers through operator intervention prior to completion (Column 7, lines 6 – 22 and Column 6, lines 53 - 55, where the ping transmission control rate can be adjusted to be minimum or even zero to meet the demands of the network); and resuming the querying of computers through operator intervention at the selected address where the process was temporarily halted (Column 7, lines 6 – 22 and Column 7, lines 36 – 38, the polling works as a queue so the next node to poll will stay on top of the queue). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use

Bondi's teaching of being concerned about the condition of traffic on the network in Liu's query system (Column 7, lines 6 – 24).

Claim 28 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Liu in view of Humblet. Liu does not explicitly mention that at least one of steps (c) and (j) are repeated only for a predetermined time, said method further comprising the step of: (k) discontinuing at least one of steps (e) and (j) once the predetermined time has elapsed, regardless of whether every IP address in the range of IP addresses has been queried. Humblet teaches that a network node discovery program should discontinue once the predetermined time has elapsed, regardless of whether every IP address in the range of IP addresses has been queried (Column 2, lines 6 – 22). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use Humblet's teaching of discontinuing the node discovery process in Liu's computer query process in order to prevent redundant updates, freeing up resources in the network (Column 1, lines 40 – 45).

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

U. S. Patent No. 6,032,194 issued to Gai.

U. S. Patent No. 6,587,440 issued to Dawes.

U. S. Patent No. 6,490,617 issued to Hemphill.

U. S. Patent No. 6,411,997 issued to Dawes.

U. S. Patent No. 6,636,499 issued to Dowling


U. S. Patent No. 6,101,528 issued to Butt.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kevin Bates whose telephone number is (703) 605-0633. The examiner can normally be reached on 8 am - 4:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Hosain Alam can be reached on (703) 308-6662. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3800.

KB
October 24, 2003


HOSAIN ALAM
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER